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H.R. 3564 - Regulatory Improvement Act of 2007

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 3564 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Chris Cannon (R-UT) on September 18, 2007. The House passed H.R. 3564 on October 22, 2007, by voice vote. The Senate agreed to an amended version of the bill, by unanimous consent, on June 27, 2008.

H.R. 3564 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on July 14, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.R. 3564, as amended by the Senate, authorizes \$9.6 million over fiscal years 2009 – 2011 to fund the Administrative Conference of the United States.

As passed by the House, H.R. 3564 authorized funding levels of \$1 million for 2008, \$3.3 million for 2009, \$3.4 million for 2010, and \$3.5 million for 2011. The Senate version removed 2008 authorization and reduced funding levels to \$3.2 million for each of fiscal years 2009-2011.

BACKGROUND

The Administrative Conference of the United States (ACUS) was established in 1964 as an independent agency charged with studying administrative agencies and making recommendations to the President, Congress, and the administrative agencies on ways to improve the efficiency of administrative procedures. (5 U.S.C. 594) The ACUS was comprised of between 75 – 101 members, consisting of a Chairman who was appointed by the President, up to 40 members appointed by the Chairman from both the public and private sectors, and every head of an executive department, agency, independent regulatory board or commission, or their designee(s). (5 U.S.C. 593)

The ACUS was comprised of members such as Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia who served as Chairman of the Conference from 1972 to 1974, and Justice Stephen Breyer, who served as a member of the Conference from 1981 – 1994. The funding for the ACUS was terminated in 1995, effectively eliminating the program.

COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) did not have a cost estimate available for the Senate amended version of H.R. 3564 as of July 7, 2008.

STAFF CONTACT

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